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Date:	October 15, 2004
To:	Mr. Fred Enichioya U.S PATENT OFFICE
Re:	U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/923,543 By: <b>Levan HIGASHIGAWA et al.</b> <u>Attorney Docket No. 011002</u>
Fax Number:	703 746 9349
Number of Pages	11 (including cover sheet)
From:	Thomas E. Brown

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**OCT 15 2004**

In re the Application of: **Levan HIGASHIGAWA**

Group Art Unit: 2172

Serial No.: **09/923,543**

Examiner: **Fred I EHICHIOYA**

Filed: **August 8, 2001**

Confirmation No.: 2116

**For: LINK TREE FORMING APPARATUS, LINK TREE FORMING  
METHOD, AND LINK TREE FORMING PROGRAM**

Attorney Docket No.: **011002**

Customer Number: **38834**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
Sir:

October 15, 2004

In response to the Examiner teleconference conducted on October 14, 2004, please  
amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this page.**

**Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.**